APRIL 14, 1775. THE NUMBER 11.

VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

ALWAYS FOR LIBERTY, AND THE PUBLICK GOOD.

ALEXANDER PURDIE, PRINTER.

Continuation of an appeal to the juſtice and intereſts of the people of GREAT BRITAIN, *in the preſent diſputes with* AMERICA.

EDWARD I. or the Engliſh Juſtinian, was the wiſeſt and moſt magnanimous of our princes; and as he had too much juſtice to refuſe what he knew to be the inherent right of his people, ſo he had too much wiſdom and courage to be deluded or compelled into a conceſſion which was not ſtrictly conſtitutional. This ſtatute is therefore deſervedly held in great veneration, and is of high authority. M. De Lolme, a very ſagacious reſearcher into the principles of our conſtitution, calls it "an important ſtatute, which, in conjunction with *Magna Charta*, forms the baſis of the Engliſh conſtitution. If it "is from the latter," ſays he, "that the "Engliſh ought to date the origin of their "liberty, it is to the former they owe its "ſecurity. If the great charter is the "rampart that defends the liberties of "every individual, it is the ſtatute that "protects the grand charter itſelf, and "by which the people were enabled to "make the law ſuperiour to the will of "the crown."*

In the courſe of time, the acting by deputation, which was adopted for convenience at firſt, became a ſettled practice. Still, however, no freeman, of whatever denomination, was denied the right of voting for him who was to ſignify his aſſent, or be his repreſentative in Parliament, till the reign of Henry VI. when that right was reſtricted to perſons having a freehold of forty ſhillings annual value.‖ This alteration in the ſyſtem introduced two kinds of repreſentation, real and virtual. They who retained the right of voting were *really* repreſented; they who did not vote, but yet were ſhielded and ſecured in their portion of property by the electors and elected bearing their proportion in the grants made, were *virtually* repreſented. Still, however, as the real electors, though greatly circumſcribed in number, owned far the greater part of the lay property of the kingdom, the original idea of the grants being made by common conſent continued, and governed all the parliamentary forms in voting ſupplies. The Commons are ſaid to give and grant, the King thanks his good people for their benevolence, and the Lords are not permitted to originate, alter, or amend a money bill. There is but one inſtance, within my knowledge, in which the Houſe of Lords were ſuffered to violate this rule. This was in the time of Richard II. wherein the Houſe of Commons are ſaid to have aſſented to an impoſition which originated in the upper Houſe. It is true, that on the patent roll, 3 Edward I. and in a variety of other inſtances, they gave ſeparately, and of their own property; but theſe are additional proofs how prevalent the idea was, that property could be given only and abſolutely by thoſe who owned it.

Lord Clarendon ſays, the origin of ſupplies in the Commons had never been diſputed in the worſt of times, and that the Lords acknowledged it in 1640.§ We are told in the caſe ſtated,¶ a work known to be written under the inſpection of the Lords, that the Lords ſay, "as to what "concerns their rights and privileges, "they pretend not to be the beginners of "any charge to be laid on the eſtates of "the ſubject, nor to increaſe or augment "any that is already laid by the Houſe of "Commons. This they conceive to be "againſt the intendment of the law, 9 "H. IV. and the practice of Parliaments "ever ſince."

Is it poſſible that any one can, conſiſtent with common ſenſe, deduce the ſole and incommunicable poſſeſſion of this right of giving and granting by the Houſe of Commons from any other origin than that of their repreſenting the people? This proof, therefore, would be alone ſufficient to ſhow, that both in the principles and practice of the conſtitution repreſentation and taxation are inſeparable, and that it is not the three eſtates, but thoſe whom the people elect, who repreſent them.

But this poſition is ſtill farther ſupported, by the conſtant practice of the clergy in convocation. The clergy were ſubject to the general controul and ſuperintending power of the ſupreme legiſlature; but Parliament never attempted to tax them while they were repreſented in convocation, and not in the Houſe of Commons. Whenever they contributed to the ſupport of government they did it by their own conſent, ſignified in their convocation, in which my Lord Coke ſays, they were all by repreſentation, or in perſon, preſent*. It appears by the roll of the 4 Rec. 2. No. 13, 14. that when the Houſe of Commons offered to grant an aid, if the clergy would pay one third, as they poſſeſſed a third of the realm, the clergy anſwered: They were not to grant aids by Parliament, and therefore willed the Commons to do their duty, and they would do theirs. This is in effect the language of America, yet it is idly called a ſtrange new fangled doctrine.‖

From all theſe general views of the conſtitution, both in its principles and practice, it appears to be one uniform and inviolable rule, that property could not be given but by conſent. Whether that conſent was ſignified in perſon, or by repreſentation, was a matter merely of convenience; ſo much ſo, indeed, that every one knows the repreſentatives were formerly paid for their trouble in attending upon the buſineſs of the whole. The act of Henry VI. which preſcribed a qualification for electors, regulated the exerciſe, but did not aboliſh the right; for there is a manifeſt and eternal difference between regulating the mode in which a right may be enjoyed, and eſtabliſhing a principle which entirely annihilates that right. To eſtabliſh the power of the Britiſh Parliament to give and grant the property of the people of America is moſt clearly to annihilate their right of conſenting to the diſpoſal of that property, in whole or in part, in perſon or by repreſentation.

How far this is conſiſtent with the exiſtence of property, with the principles and practice of all free conſtitutions, and eſpecially of our own, I have already furniſhed the reader with the general means of judging. I ſhall now proceed to ſhow, that the ſame principle pervades and governs the particular inſtances in which it was neceſſary that diſtinct parts of the empire ſhould contribute to the ſupport of government, in doing which their own conſent was always deemed indiſpenſable.

In the tenth year of Edward I. this Prince being under a neceſſity of demanding ſupplies, applied to his ſubjects in Ireland, diſtinctly, to ſolicit a loan to enable him to carry on the war againſt Wales.* Unſettled as the ſtate of Ireland then was, the right of granting their own property was conſidered as ſo eſſential to an Engliſh ſubject that the application was not made to the Parliament at Weſtminſter, but to the people themſelves, whoſe money was to be given.

When the ſame Prince was again in diſtreſs, he applied firſt to the clergy of Ireland, for an additional fifteenth of the ſpiritualties, and they preremptorily refuſed to comply with the requiſition. The King reſpected the right of refuſing, though the refuſal itſelf was ſo grievous a diſappointment to him. He therefore neither called in the abſolute power of his Engliſh Parliament, nor of his army, to enforce the requiſition, but applied to the laity of Ireland, from whom he received more ſatisfaction. Dr. Leland tells us, that "after ſome altercation and delay, they granted him a fifteenth of their effects."‖ Thus this magnanimous Prince, well ſatisfied that it was the inherent right of an Engliſh ſubject not to have his property taken from him but by his own conſent, given by himſelf or by his repreſentative choſen by himſelf, whether that ſubject was in England or Ireland, he applied to him, or to his repreſentative, for the ſupplies which were to ariſe out of his property.

But we find the inſeparable connexion of repreſentation and taxation ſtill more irrefragably proved, in the reign of Edward III. I will ſtate the tranſaction, in the words of Dr. Leland. It is diſtinguiſhed, and deciſive.

"The Parliament of England grew "uneaſy under the burthen of ſupporting "the King's Iriſh dominions; they re"monſtrated; they ſolicited that ſtrict "inquiry ſhould be made into the defici"encies of the royal revenues in this realm. "The King was no leſs impatient to find "any part of the ſupplies deſtined to his "military ſervice diverted to a purpoſe "which he deemed of much leſs moment, "the ſupport of a diſordered government "in Ireland. An agent, called Nicholas "Dagworth, was deſpatched into this "country; his inſtructions were to repre"ſent the neceſſities of the crown, and

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* *Conſtit. de l'Angleterre, P.* 28. ‖ *It may be well queſtioned (according to the principles of Mr. Locke) whether Parliament had any juſt right to take away from its conſtituents ſo eſſential a privilege.*

§. *V.* 1. *P.* 134. ¶ *P.* 113. * 7 *Co.* 73. ‖ *A doctrine as old as the conſtitution itſelf, interwoven in its very ſtamina, drawn from the firſt principles of natural juſtice, and eſſential to the exiſtence of property.*

* *Rym. ex Rol. Wall.* 10 *Ed. I. Leland, V.* 1. *P.* 248. ‖ *Leland, P.* 251.

" the grievous deficiencies of the Iriſh revenue; to convince the King's miniſters of " the neceſſity of exerting themſelves for " the intereſt of their royal maſter. It " was particularly directed, that an Iriſh " Parliament ſhould be convened without " delay, for the purpoſe of granting ſuch " a liberal ſubſidy as ſhould provide not " only for the exigencies of their own ſtate, " but for the aſſiſtance of their ſovereign " in his foreign wars. The Parliament " was aſſembled; *they pleaded the poverty* " *of the realm, and refuſed the ſupplies.* " Edward was provoked; he iſſued his " writs of ſummons both to the clergy " and laity. The Biſhops were commanded " to chooſe two of the clergy in each dio- " ceſs; the Commons to chooſe two lay- " men in each county, to repreſent the " Lords and Commons in that county; " the cities and boroughs, in like manner, " each to elect two citizens and burgeſſes. " The aſſembly was directed to repair to " the King in England, to treat, conſult, " and agree with him and his council, as " well on the government of the land of " Ireland, as the aid and ſupport of the " King's war."

(*To be continued.*)

LONDON, *January* 26.

THE following is, we hear, an exact liſt of the reinforcement intended for Boſton: Three regiments of foot, one of dragoons, ſeven companies of marines, a large train of artillery, and two frigates.

Orders are ſent down to Portſmouth for the Falkland ſloop of war to hold herſelf in readineſs to ſail for Boſton, with expreſſes to General Gage.

It is ſaid that a detachment of the Royal Artillery will ſoon be draughted for Boſton.

Extract of a letter from Chatham, *Jan.* 23.

" Orders are received at the commiſſioner's office, in this dockyard, for the following ſloops to be fitted with the greateſt expedition for ſea: Martin of 14 guns, Zephyr of 10 guns, and the Savage of 8 guns; the former is to be fitted at this port, and the two latter at Sheerneſs. It is ſaid they are to go to America."

Extract of a letter from Chatham, *Jan.* 25.

" A detachment of marines, conſiſting of one Captain, three Lieutenants, and 60 private men, are ordered to march from this diviſion to Portſmouth, in order to embark for America."

Extract of a letter from Goſport, *Jan.* 24.

" Since my laſt an order has been received to get ready 250 marines for embarkation. As they have not a ſufficient number in barracks, they are under the neceſſity of draughting them from the guardſhips.

" Mr. Ruſſel, one of the pay clerks here, is appointed a purſer of the Otter ſloop of war, and Mr. Lucas purſer of the Merlin ſloop, which ſloops are ordered for commiſſion immediately.

" It is ſaid here, that an order is received to fit out for ſea, with all expedition, ten ſhips of the line."

The Lords of the Admiralty have been pleaſed to appoint Admiral Young to the command of his Majeſty's ſhips at Barbados, Thomas Dumerux, Eſq; to the command of the Portland, Benjamin Marlow, Eſq; to the Coventry, Francis Grant Gordon, Eſq; to the Argus, James Read, Eſq; to the Carcaſe, William Barnaby, Eſq; to the Merlin, and Matthew Squires, Eſq; to the Otter.

It was yeſterday reported, that General Gage was recalled (not being violent enough) and that General M'Kay was to ſucceed him, and that two other general officers were to be ſent alſo.

Major General Howe is one of the general officers who is talked of to take upon him a command in North America.

The 15th regiment of light dragoons, commanded by Major General Preſton, is ordered to embark for Boſton, at Corke, before the latter end of February, but not Elliot's light horſe, as mentioned in ſome other papers.

The 35th, 49th, and 63d, are the three regiments of foot that are ordered to embark, without delay, for Boſton.

By the laſt advices from Boſton, it appears that the treaſurers choſen by the Provincial Congreſs to receive the ſeveral rates and taxes of that town, inſtead of the treaſurers appointed by government, had not had 1s. paid to them as yet, nor is there any hopes they ever will; for notwithſtanding all that contempt which the rabble expreſs for the authority of the mother country, and its Parliament, the houſekeepers and traders ſeem to be of opinion that it is ſtill poſſeſſed of power ſufficient to make them pay them over again to the treaſurers regularly appointed, and therefore they chooſe not to pay them to this new one; which is certainly very prudent conduct, for, according to the old ſaying, *brag* is a good dog, but *hold-faſt* is a better.

Yeſterday there was a numerous meeting of the merchants, traders, and others, concerned in the American commerce, at the King's Arms tavern, Cornhill, agreeable to a publick ſummons from the chairman. About twelve o'clock, Mr. Lane took the chair, when the buſineſs was opened by Mr. Baker in a very able manner, ſetting forth that the petition of the merchants, traders, &c. had been preſented to the Houſe of Commons on Monday laſt, when, after a long debate, the ſame was referred to a committee of the whole Houſe, but not to the committee which the conſideration of the American papers had been referred on Thurſday laſt; that as the Houſe had appointed a ſeparate committee to conſider of the merchants petition, hearing of their evidence before that committee was nugatory, unneceſſary, and precluded them from theſe advantages which they hoped to receive from a proper conſideration of their petition.

Mr. Serjeant enlarged thereon, and informed the company, that, after due deliberation, he thought it expedient to propoſe a motion for leave to withdraw a petition, which he conceived was the moſt conſiſtent way for the merchants, &c. to ſhow their ſenſe of the reception of the petition.

To this reſolution many ſtrong objections were made; in particular, that this meaſure would, as it were in the beginning of the engagement, be retreating from the ſervice, and thereby give the Miniſtry that advantage which they ſo much wiſhed for, and be the inſtrument of diſcouraging other manufacturing towns from ſending up petitions to Parliament. The objections were fairly and deliberately debated, when a motion was made that the previous queſtion be put, when a very great majority appeared in favour of it.

Mr. Alderman Kirkman then propoſed that the committee ſhould withdraw and preface a petition to the Houſe of Commons, praying that they would not enter any reſolutions on the American papers laid before them, until the merchants be heard in ſupport of their petition preſented on Monday laſt. A motion was made, and ſeconded, that a petition be immediately drawn and ſigned, and preſented this day, which was unanimouſly agreed to. The committee then brought in a petition, which, being three times read, was unanimouſly approved of, and directed to be ſigned immediately, and preſented to the Houſe of Commons this day at one o'clock.

Of all the American papers given into the Houſe of Commons, by Lord North, none appeared ſo obnoxious to government as that ſtiled *A league and covenant;* and it is ſaid the crown lawyers have given it as their opinion, that all the Boſtonians who ſigned it have committed an overt act of high treaſon.

Private letters from Holland mention, that there had been ſhipped from thence to America a vaſt quantity of fire-arms and ammunition; and that the exporters take in return the produce of that country, and carry on a conſiderable trade to all parts of America.

WILLIAMSBURG, *April* 14.

Extract of a letter from a Gentleman in Glaſgow, *to his correſpondent in this city, dated Jan.* 31, 1775.

GREAT preparitions are making by the Miniſtry, to reduce the Americans to obedience. All meetings are to be deemed *high treaſon;* and, it is ſaid, ſome of the people of Boſton are to be brought home *in irons.* Thirty ſhips of war are ordered out to *guard* your coaſt, and block up your ports, which are to admit of no export or import but to and from Great Britain and her iſlands. God knows how this will end. I ſincerely condole with you and all friends in America."

Another letter, from the ſame place, ſays: " The American affairs now ſeem to wear a very gloomy aſpect. Government ſeem reſolved to enforce the late acts, which I fear will create diſturbances, and may perhaps involve you in the calamities of a civil war."

Another letter, dated Feb. 2d, ſays: " No news from the Parliament, only that tranſports are hired to carry five regiments to America; and 30 ſloops and 20 gun ſhips are ordered for your coaſts, as I adviſed you in my laſt."

The Speirs, Capt. Luſk, in 8 week from Glaſgow, is arrived in James river; by whom we learn that the Bowman, Taylor, got ſafe home in 28 days paſſage.

Two ſloops, belonging to the Eaſtern Shore, were condemned laſt Wedneſday at the court of Vice Admiralty; and a New England veſſel is now on the ſtocks, for trial.

Deaths.] JAMES BALFOUR, Eſq; at Little England, near Hampton; an agent for the houſe of Meſſ. Hanburys & Co. of London, to whom he was a moſt faithful ſervant, and executed his truſt with the eaſe and politeneſs of a Gentleman. He was an agreeable companion, a ſteady friend, had a very humane and benevolent heart, and no man wiſhed better to the cauſe of America, or had a higher ſenſe of liberty in general.

To the Honourable Peyton Randolph, *Eſq; Preſident*, Richard Henry Lee, George Waſhington, Patrick Henry, Richard Bland, Benjamin Harriſon, *and* Edmund Pendleton, *Eſquires, Delegates from this colony to the General Congreſs.*

GENTLEMEN,

WE have it in command, from the freeholders of Auguſta county, by their committee, held the 22d of laſt February, to preſent you with their grateful acknowledgements of thanks for the prudent, virtuous, and noble exertions of the faculties with which Heaven has endowed you, in the cauſe of liberty, and of every thing that men ought to hold ſacred, at the late General Congreſs; a conduct ſo nobly intereſting, that it muſt command that tribute of applauſe, not only from this, but ſucceeding ages. May that ſacred flame that has illuminated your minds, and influenced your conduct, in projecting and concurring in ſo many ſalutary determinations for the preſervation of American liberty, ever continue to direct your conduct, to the lateſt period of your lives. May the bright example be fairly tranſcribed on the hearts and reduced into practice by every Virginian, by every American. May our hearts be open to receive, and our arm ſtrong to defend, that liberty and freedom, the gift of Heaven, now baniſhing from its laſt retreat in Europe. Here let it be hoſpitably entertained, in every breaſt; there let it take deep root, and flouriſh in everlaſting bloom; that, under its benign influence, the virtuouſly free may enjoy ſecure repoſe, and ſtand forth the ſcourge and terrour of tyranny and tyrants, of every order and denomination, till time ſhall be no more. Be pleaſed, Gentlemen, to accept of their grateful ſenſe of your important ſervices, and of their ardent prayers for the beſt intereſt of this once happy country; and vouchſafe, Gentlemen, to accept of the ſame from your moſt humble ſervants,

THOMAS LEWIS,
SAMUEL M'DOWELL, Delegates.

To THOMAS LEWIS, *and* SAMUEL M'DOWELL, Eſquires.

GENTLEMEN,

BE pleaſed to tranſmit to the reſpectable freeholders of the county of Auguſta our ſincere thanks for their affectionate addreſs, approving our conduct in the late Continental Congreſs. It gives us the greateſt pleaſure to find that our honeſt endeavours to ſerve our country on this arduous and important occaſion has met their approbation, a reward fully adequate to our warmeſt wiſhes; and the aſſurances from the brave and ſpirited people of Auguſta, that their hearts and hands ſhall be devoted to the ſupport of the meaſures adopted, or hereafter to be taken, by the Congreſs, for the preſervation of American liberty, give us the higheſt ſatisfaction, and muſt afford pleaſure to every friend to the juſt rights of mankind.

We cannot conclude without acknowledgments to you, Gentlemen, for the polite manner in which you have communicated to us the ſentiments of your worthy conſtituents; and are their and your obedient humble ſervants,

PEYTON RANDOLPH. RICHARD HENRY LEE. GEORGE WASHINGTON. PATRICK HENRY. RICHARD BLAND. BENJAMIN HARRISON. EDMUND PENDLETON.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE freeholders of *York* county are deſired to meet at the courthouſe, on *Tueſday* the 25th inſtant (*April*) to elect delegates to repreſent them the enſuing year.

BY *decree of the court of* Vice Admiralty, *on* Tueſday *the 18th of this inſtant* (April) *will be ſold at* Burwell's *ferry, for ready money, the ſloop* BETSEY, *with her rigging, tackle, and apparel; alſo the ſloop* LIBERTY, *with her rigging*, &c. *16 hhds. of rum, one bag of coffee, and a box of chocolate.*

(1) JAMES COCKE, Marſhal.

ROSLIN, *April* 10, 1775.

TWENTY *five likely* NEGROES, *conſiſting of men, women, boys, and girls, will be ſold at* Blandford, *on* Monday *the 1ſt of* May *next, to the higheſt bidders, for ready money, tobacco, or merchants notes payable at the enſuing meeting.*

CHARLES DUNCAN.

For SALE at *Tappahannock*,

AN *exceeding likely young negro man, who is a very good houſe ſervant, underſtands taking care of horſes, and is a tolerable good cook. If the purchaſer is not perfectly ſatisfied with him after a month's trial, he may return him if in health.*

(tf.) ARCHIBALD M'CALL.

NORFOLK, *April* 3, 1775.

JOURNEYMEN WEAVERS, *that are acquainted with any of the following branches*, viz. *weaving of cotton velvets, thickſets, jeans, fuſtians, dimities, counterpanes, damask, diaper, gauze, woollens, or linen, will meet with good encouragement by applying to the ſubſcriber. A good linen weaver may ſoon weave any of the above, and ſhall have the pieces prepared and mount-for them, by*

GARDINER FLEMING.

*** *I ſhould be obliged to any ſmith or cutler that would furniſh me with a plough, and three different ſets of wires, for making cotton velvets.*

¶ *I have muskito curtains, and ſundry other kinds of cloth, for ſale; and will give a good price for well ſpun cotton, flax, or wool, in payment (preferable to caſh) ſuch as will run from ſix to fifteen yards to the pound.*

STRAYED, *or* STOLEN, *from the ſubſcriber, in* Williamſburg, *a dark bay* HORSE *about fourteen hands and a half high, has a white face, roach mane and bob tail, paces ſlow, and branded on the near buttock* TL *in a piece. Whoever brings the ſaid horſe to me in this city, or to Mr.* Lowdwell Blackey Taylor *in* New Kent *county, ſhall receive a reward adequate to his trouble.* WILLIAM DAWSON.

The noted ſwift HORSE

TRISTRAM SHANDY,

NOW *in great perfection, ſtands at my houſe in the lower end of* Caroline *county, and covers mares this ſeaſon at* 50*s. Good paſturage gratis, and great care taken of the mares, but I will not be anſwerable for any that may get away.*

TRISTRAM SHANDY *was got by* Moreton's Traveller, *his dam by* Janus, *out a very fine* Engliſh *mare.*

JAMES UPSHAW.

To be SOLD *by publick auction, for ready money* only, *at* Glouceſter *courthouſe, on the 4th of* May *next, at one o'clock*,

SEVERAL valuable horſes and mares, together with a mohogany eſcritoir and book-caſe, the property of

JONATHAN WATSON.

*** The land, negroes, ſtock, houſe, &c. may yet be purchaſed on the terms ſpecified in a former advertiſement.

To be SOLD *in* Amherſt *county*,

FOUR THOUSAND acres of exceeding good tobacco LAND, being part of a large tract formerly advertiſed, together with a very valuable griſtmill, upon *Buffalo* river. This land is equal to any that has yet been ſold of the tract. The time of payment will be made agreeable to purchaſers. Mr. *Gabriel Penn*, who lives near the land, is authoriſed to bargain for it, and will ſhow it to any perſons inclinable to purchaſe.

(tf.) CARTER BRAXTON.

To be SOLD, *on the fourth* Thurſday *in* May *next, being* Pittſylvania *court day, by virtue of a deed of truſt from* James Roberts,

THE tract of land where the courthouſe ſtands, containing about 1000 acres, 50 of which are laid off into a town, and ſeveral houſes are built thereon. It would be profitable to any perſon that inclines to keep tavern, as that, without any land but a garden, now rents for 60 l. per annum. There are near 100 acres cleared, and in good order for cropping. Alſo the following tracts of land, *viz.* one on *Dan* river, in the ſaid county, joining the great falls, containing about 700 acres. Another tract on the ſaid river, in *Guilford* county, *North Carolina*, containing 650 acres, 100 of which are cleared, and in good repair. It is known by the name of *Covington's*, or *Matrimony Quarter*, and has rented for 25 l. per annum. A third tract on *Moon's* creek, in *Orange* county, *North Carolina*, containing 337 acres, on which is a good plantation that has rented for 8 l. per annum. Theſe ſeveral tracts of land will be divided into lots, if required, and will be ſold by private ſale, between this and the day of ſale, on application being made to the ſaid *Roberts*, or the ſubſcriber. At the ſame time will be ſold, ſeveral valuable SLAVES; two of the women are exceeding good houſe ſervants. The ſtocks of horſes and cattle will alſo be ſold. Good titles to the lands, &c. will be made the purchaſers, and as long credit as the affair will admit.

WILLIAM TUNSTALL.

FALMOUTH, *April* 5, 1775.

RUN away from the ſloop *Suſannah*, Capt. *John Dow*, about the 5th ult. a negro man named NED, 40 years of age, about five feet ten inches high, much pitted with the ſmallpox, has a remarkable ſore on his right leg, is fond of liquor, and when intoxicated has an impediment in his ſpeech, is very deceitful, and will, no doubt, endeavour to paſs as a freeman. He had on, when he left the ſloop, a gray kerſey ſhort coat, almoſt new, with metal buttons, breeches of the ſame cloth, a ſpotted cotton jacket, a pair of yarn hoſe, and an old fine hat. Any perſon delivering the ſaid negro to Capt. *Dow* on board, or to the ſubſcriber at *Falmouth*, ſhall have a reward of 5 l. if apprehended in this colony, and 10 l. if in any other. I forewarn all maſters of veſſels from harbouring, employing, or carrying off the ſaid negro, at their peril.

GEORGE HAMILTON.

RICHMOND, *April* 4, 1775.

I SHALL leave the colony in a few weeks. JAMES WATT.

COMMITTED to *Northampton* county jail, *North Carolina*, the 22d ult. an outlandiſh negro man, who cannot, or will not, tell his owner's name. He is a ſmall black fellow, about five feet four inches high, and has ſome of his country marks between his eyes; had on a negro cotton jacket with a red collar, and ſome red round the ſleeves, and an old pair of leather breeches. The owner may have him on proving his property, and paying charges. DRURY GEE, ſheriff.

STRAYED, or STOLEN, from *Rocky Ridge*, in *November*, at the ſale of negroes there, a bay mare with a blaze in her face, has a number of remarkable ſmall white ſpots on her back and rump, ſome ſaddle ſpots, is about ten years old, and branded, but I have forgot what it is. Whoever contrives the ſaid mare to me, near *Buckingham* courthouſe, ſhall have 3 l. reward, if ſtrayed; and if ſtolen, on conviction of the thief, 5 l. paid by

THEODORICK WEBB.

TAKEN up, in *Pittſylvania*, a dark bay HORSE four feet three inches and a half high, about eight years old, a large ſtar in his forehead, had on a ſmall bell with two patches on it, and branded on the near buttock ƆR. Poſted, and appraiſed to 3 l. 15 s.

ROBERT HARSTONE.

MANCHESTER, *March* 25, 1775.

ABOUT 7 or 8 years ago, a bond from *Jones* and *Hooper* to *Harriſon*, for upwards of 30 l. was left with me to receive payment. In 1769 I received the money, with the intereſt then due, and ſome time after advertiſed in the *Virginia* Gazette, that the Gentlemen who put this bond into my hands might apply and receive the money, but no application hitherto hath been made. The bond was left with me at the time Col. *Harriſon* ſold negroes at this place, but by whom I know not.

JAMES LYLE.

WANTED,

A YOUNG cheſtnut-ſorrel HORSE, not leſs than 15 hands high, with his mane and tail of the ſame colour with his body. As he is deſigned for a carriage, he muſt be a trotter; and if he is a blooded nag, it will be ſo much the more agreeable. Inquire of the Printer. (2)

YORICK

IN full health and vigour, covers this ſeaſon at the uſual price and place. Country produce will be received at market price, if delivered before the mares are taken away, of which good care ſhall be taken, but no enſurance for eſcapes, by the publick's obedient humble ſervant,

JOHN WHELDON.

MOUNT AIRY, *March* 28, 1775.

KING HEROD

WILL cover mares the enſuing ſeaſon at 4 l. each. The Gentlemen who ſend mares will be expected to make payment upon taking them away; and ſhould any ſtray from the paſture, and be loſt, I will not be anſwerable for them.

RALPH WORMELEY, junior.

ROSEGILL, *April* 1, 1775.

WILLIAM COSBY, Wheelwright,

in *WILLIAMSBURG*,

BEGS leave to inform his friends and cuſtomers, that having been in a bad ſtate of health for theſe twelve months paſt, he has not been able to give that ſatisfaction he would willingly do; but being now quite recovered, he is determined that no one ſhall make better and more ſubſtantial work than him, or upon ſhorter notice, and therefore hopes for a continuance of their favours. He repairs all ſorts of carriages, and furniſhes iron work for the different branches of his buſineſs.

WILLIAMSBURG, *April* 5, 1775.

AS I intend to leave the colony as ſoon as I can ſettle my affairs, I muſt earneſtly requeſt all perſons indebted to me on my own account, or in partnerſhip with Mr. *William Maitland*, to diſcharge their balances by the enſuing meeting of the merchants. As there are probably ſome of thoſe who may not have it in their power to comply with this requeſt, it is expected they will give bond for what they owe, which will in ſome meaſure anſwer my purpoſe, and enable me to ſupport my credit in future.——The goods I have on hand, amounting to upwards of 600l. ſterling, I would gladly diſpoſe of at a low advance, and allow twelve months credit, the purchaſer giving bond with approved ſecurity. ROBERT MILLER.

JOHN LAMB,

HOUSE CARPENTER and JOINER,

BEGS leave to inform the publick that he carries on the ſaid buſineſs on his own account, and that it ſhall be his conſtant ſtudy, in proſecuting the different branches of the ſame, to give ſatisfaction to all who may pleaſe to employ him.

Williamſburg, *March* 28, 1775.

Ten Pounds Reward.

RUN away from the ſubſcriber, near the upper church in *Middleſex*, on *Saturday* the 18th ult. a convict ſervant named JOSEPH HIGGINSON, one or two and twenty years of age, who is a native of *London*, but can neither read nor write; he is a ſmall man, being little better than five feet high, has a remarkable down look, bends back in the knees when he ſtands, has no beard, but a remarkable ſtrong voice for one of his ſize, and ſtraight dark hair, not long enough to tie. He has been in the country four years laſt *September*, and was ſold by Mr. *Hodge* to one *Strother*, by *Strother* to *Roger Bell*, who ſold him to *Reuben Daniel* of *Orange* county, from whom I had him. He ſerved his time to a ſcrewplate maker, but I have ſince taught him to do all ſorts of jobbing work very well; and although he pretends to underſtand braſs and ſilver work, he is but an indifferent hand in thoſe branches. He had on, and took with him, a *Virginia* cotton coat, kerſey-wove, of a pale lead colour, white breeches, the ſame ſtuff as his coat, old *Engliſh* leather breeches, a mixed red *Wilton* jacket without ſleeves, a coarſe blue jump jacket, a pair of white cotton ſtockings, one pair of pale blue *Virginia* yarn do. a pair of mixed red coarſe ſale do. a pair of old ſhoes, turned pumps, and ſince he has been gone I underſtand he has bought a pair of new black grain dogſkin ſhoes. I think he had a pair of ſilver buckles and a ſtone ſet brooch, but I am not certain. He had likewiſe a fine holland ſhirt and a muſlin neckcloth, one oſnabrug ſhirt, and a fine ſmall hat almoſt new. I hear he was ſeen on his way towards, *York*. Whoever apprehends the ſaid ſervant, and ſecures him in any jail of this colony, ſo that I get him again, ſhall have 5l. reward; if taken up in any other province, and brought home, I will give the above reward of 10l. I hereby forewarn all perſons from harbouring him, or giving him employment; and as I ſuppoſe he will endeavour to make his eſcape by water, I caution all maſters of veſſels from taking him on board, or carrying him out of the country. SAMUEL DANIEL.

*** As I had my houſe robbed the night before he went away, and two new cotton ſhirts carried off, I ſuſpect him to be the thief.

TAKEN *up*, *in* Bedford, *a black* MARE *about fourteen hands high*, *trots*, *had on a bell marked* L K, *and branded on the near ſhoulder* O *with a ſtroke through the middle*. *Poſted*, *and appraiſed to* 7*l*.

‖ PRIOR WRIGHT.

WILLIAMSBURG, *March* 30, 1775.

THE Viſiters and Governours of *William* and *Mary* College are deſired to meet on Tueſday the 18th of *April* next.

By Order of the Rector.

MATTHEW DAVENPORT, Cl. Viſit.

KING WILLIAM, *March* 23, 1775.

I INTEND to leave the colony for a few months. JOHN G. FRAZER.

WILLIAMSBURG, *March* 31, 1775.

I INTEND to leave the colony ſoon.

ARCHIBALD WILLIAMSON.

*** *All perſons indebtde to Mr.* Patrick Telfer, *merchant in* Glaſgow, *are earneſtly requeſted to make ſpeedy payment, to* Benjamin Waller, *Eſq; of this city, who is fully empowered to grant ſufficient diſcharges.*

WANTED *immediately*, *two veſſels*, *one of* 3, *the other of* 5000 *buſhels burthen*, *the former for* Boſton, *the latter for* Britain. *Inquire of the Printer.*

The beautiful high bred cheſtnut HORSE

DAMON

WILL ſtand at my plantation in *Glouceſter* county, the enſuing ſeaſon, and will cover mares at 20s. the leap, or 4l. the ſeaſon. He was got by *Fearnought* out of a full bred mare, and is five feet five inches high. The mares will meet with good paſturage gratis, but I will not be anſwerable for any that are loſt.

MANN PAGE.

*** The money to be paid before the mares are taken away, or corn at 10s. per barrel.

MERRY TOM

IN high perfection, ſtands at my houſe to cover mares at 20s. a leap, 50s. the ſeaſon, or 3l. 10s. to enſure. He and his colts are ſo well known, that a deſcription of them is unneceſſary. Good paſturage for the mares gratis, but I will not be anſwerable ſhould any be ſtolen or get away, although the greateſt care ſhall be taken to prevent it. JOHN BAIRD.

APPAMATTOX, GRUNCROFT,
March 24, 1775.

OSCAR

STANDS at my houſe, near *Peterſburg*, and will cover mares from this time till the end of the ſeaſon, at a piſtole the ſingle leap, the money to be paid down; or three piſtoles, payable in *October*, for the ſeaſon. He is a horſe of great ſize and activity, a fine ſorrel, and in high order.

"He was got by young *Snip*, his dam "by Lord *Morton*'s *Arabian*, his grand-"dam by old *Crab*, his great grandam "by the bald *Galloway*, his great great "grandam by *Dailey*'s *Arabian*, out of "bay *Bolton*'s dam.

JOHN BANISTER.

For SALE,

A NEW BRIG, burthen about 115 Tuns, now on the ſtocks, and ready for launching. Her upper timbers are altogether of black walnut, cedar, locuſt, and mulberry. The terms of ſale will be made known to any perſon inclining to purchaſe, by applying to the ſteward at *Stratford*, the ſeat of the late Honourable *Philip Ludwell Lee*, Eſq; in *Weſtmoreland* county.

STOLEN from the ſubſcriber, in *Louiſa*, the 2d of *February* a large likely black MARE eight or nine years old, near five feet high, has a brown mouth, ſome ſaddle ſpots, carries loſty, paces and trots, had ſhoes on before, and is a pleaſant hackney. Whoever ſecures her, ſo that I may get her again, ſhall have 40s. reward, and reaſonable charges, paid by JOHN TODD.

FIVE POUNDS REWARD.

RUNAWAY from the ſubſcriber, the 9th of *February*, a *Scotch* ſervant man, named ALEXANDER NORRIS, by trade a houſe carpenter; had on, when he went away, a brown coat much worn, a green waiſtcoat, and a pair of black ſtocking breeches. It is ſuppoſed he went to *James* river, or *Norfolk*, as he was ſeen at *Aquia* inquiring the way to *Frederickſburg*. Whoever brings the ſaid ſervant to me, in *Dumfries*, ſhall have the above reward.

REGINALD GRAHAM.

TAKEN up, in *Spotſylvania*, a red STEER about three years old, marked with a crop and ſlit in each ear, and an underkeel in the left. Poſted, and appraiſed to 2l. 2s. 6d. ANDREW MOWBRY.

TAKEN *up*, *in* Bedford, *a bay* HORSE *with a blaze face*, *appears to be old*, *four feet ſeven inches high*, *a ſcar on his ſide*, *and another on his breaſt*, *all his feet white*, *is newly ſhod*, *and branded on the near ſhoulder* W. *Poſted*, *and appraiſed to* 8*l*.

‖ WILLIAM JONES.

TAKEN *up*, *in* Bedford, *a black* MARE *about four feet ſeven inches high*, *has a ſmall white ſpot on the near ſide of her noſe*, *ſeveral ſaddle ſpots*, *paces naturally*, *had on a ſmall bell*, *and branded on the near ſhoulder* AB *in a piece*.——*Alſo a bay* HORSE COLT *two years old this ſpring*, *and has ſome white down his face*. *Poſted and appraiſed*, *the mare to* 8*l*. *and the colt to* 4*l*.

‖ JOHN HEBBER.

TAKEN up, in *Buckingham*, a bay MARE about four feet ſix inches high, a ſtar in her forehead, a long mane which hangs on the left ſide, ſprig tail, trots and paces, has no brand perceivable, and appears by her feet not to have been uſed laſt ſummer. She had with her a bay horſe COLT with a large ſtar in his forehead, a long tail, and his mane hangs on the right ſide, but has no brand to be ſeen. Poſted and appraiſed, the mare to 9l. 10s. and the colt to 3l. JOHN WHITE.

TAKEN up, in *Orange*, a black HORSE about ſix years old, four feet three inches and a half high, a few white hairs in his forehead, a white ſpot above his tail, a cut mane and ſwitch tail, has been broke down in his left hind foot, paces well, but has no perceivable brand. Poſted, and appraiſed to 5l.

JOSEPH SMITH.

THREE months ago I purchaſed, from the executors of *Littlebury Hardiman*, a negro woman named RACHEL, formerly Mr. *Hardiman*'s cook, ſince which I have not ſeen her. I am informed ſhe has a huſband at one of Col. *Carter*'s quarters on *James* river, through whoſe benevolence I imagine ſhe is now harboured. Whoever brings her to me, at *Drummond*'s *Neck*, near *Cowles*'s ferry, ſhall receive 30s. or 20s. if conveyed to *Charles City* priſon. I am determined not to diſpoſe of her, and will ſue any perſon who entertains her.

6 JOHN AYLETT.

For SALE,

A TRACT of LAND in *Caroline* county, near *Newmarket*, containing about 3000 acres of well timbered land, having thereon two plantations, in good repair, with proper and convenient edifices for farming, or making tobacco. For terms apply to the ſubſcriber.

(tf) JOHN BAYLOR.

For SALE,

A TRACT of LAND in *Caroline* county, contiguous to *Mattapony*, containing about 2000 acres of well timbered land, the property of Mr. *Robert Baylor*. The terms may be known by applying to Mr. *Nathaniel Burwell* in *King William*, Mr. *John Armiſtead* in *Caroline*, or Mr. *John Baylor*, Executors. (tf)

ARTICLES of Intelligence, Eſſays, Advertiſements, *&c.* are thankfully received for this Paper, the Price of which is 12*ſ.* 6*d.* per Annum, Advertiſements inſerted as uſual. PRINTING WORK done with Care and Expedition, and on reaſonable Terms.

LONDON, *January* 26.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, January 23.

THIS day the Speaker of the Houſe of Commons took the chair at two o'clock, and after five or ſix members had been ſworn, and ſome other trifling buſineſs had been finiſhed, Mr. Alderman Hayley informed the Houſe that he had a petition to preſent from the merchants, traders, and other perſons in the city of London. He ſtated its contents ſhortly, and being deſired from the chair to bring it up, he preſented it, moved that the ſame might be referred to the committee appointed to take into conſideration the papers preſented by Lord North, by his Majeſty's command, on Thurſday laſt.

The ground of the petition is, that every article almoſt of Britiſh and Iriſh manufacture is exported, to a very conſiderable amount, to America; that we import a vaſt deal of various raw materials from that country, which, being worked up here, are again exported in great quantities; that, by the courſe of this trade, it is directly and collaterally connected with our trade to the Weſt Indies; that the benefits derived from this commercial intercourſe is not barely confined to a communication between Great Britain, the Weſt Indies, and America, but that the different commodities imported from America add conſiderably to our commerce with the Eaſt Country, Germany, Holland, France, Spain, Portugal, and the different Italian ſtates. It ſtates the returns in bullion, &c. from thoſe different countries, and the various advantages ariſing therefrom, particularly how this circuitous intercourſe increaſes our ſeamen and ſhipping, and gives employment to our various manufactures. It next proceeds to ſhow the very great advantages we derived from our commerce with America till the year 1765, the period that the effects of the ſtamp act were firſt felt in this country. It then alters to the apparent benefits derived from the repeal of that law; and ſo, taking notice of the act of 1767, for laying duties on tea, paper, painters colours, and glaſs, ſhows that the trade and commerce of this country flouriſhed or declined juſt as the mother country perſiſted or relaxed in her reſolutions for laying duties for the purpoſe of raiſing a revenue in that country. The petition likewiſe ſtated, that the Americans were indebted to the merchants of Great Britain to the amount of two millions; and concluded by praying, that they might be heard by themſelves, or agents, before the ſaid committee.

Sir William Meredith aroſe, and propoſed an amendment, viz. "that the word *the* be left out, and *a* inſerted in its ſtead," and that the latter part of the motion be eraſed; which would leave it in the following, that the petition might be referred to *a* committee. Sir William's opinion was, that the petition could not be referred to Thurſday's committee, as that was appointed to take into conſideration the American papers only. Beſides, ſaid Sir William, the hearing the merchants would greatly retard the buſineſs which was meant to be done for a reconciliation between the mother country and America.

Mr. E. Burke aroſe, and, in reply to Sir William, proceeded to ſhow how materially the trade and commerce with America ought to be conſidered before any deciſive ſteps were taken, and declared himſelf totally ignorant that the committee appointed for Thurſday were to take into conſideration the papers only which lay on the table. He inſiſted, that every information poſſible would add to the deſpatch, and not to the delay, of a reconciliation; that as the noble Lord (North) had denied them the opinion of perſons on the ſpot, the committee could not receive more material information than from the merchants trading thither, who were greatly intereſted in the colonies welfare; that if there was not time ſufficient to ſettle the American buſineſs, was not the noble Lord in fault in adjourning a month, to eat mince pies, and drink Chriſtmas ale, when ſo material a queſtion was depending.

Sir William Meredith replied to ſome of his queſtions, and ſaid he was ſorry to think the merchants would be obliged to expoſe the danger their trade and credit was in, and begged leave to remind the Houſe of the ruinous ſtate an eminent merchant (Mr. Reeves) brought himſelf to, by expoſing the ſituation of his trade at the bar of that Houſe.

Mr. Burke anſwered him, by obſerving, that it was a conſiderable diſtance of time between Mr. Reeves's examination and that of his failure; and that the circumſtances of delivering the ſtate of their trade was quite different, the one by deſire, the other not.

Sir Gilbert Elliot next aroſe, and ſupported the idea thrown out by Sir William Meredith.

Mr. T. Townſend ſpoke very ably in defence of the petition, and was for its being referred to Thurſday's committee.

Lord Clare was for not ſubmitting to the Americans in the leaſt degree, and ridiculed the opinion of thoſe who ſaid we have a right to tax America, yet ſhould not.

Mr. Charles Fox aroſe, and ſpoke extremely ſpirited in favour of the Americans, and repeatedly called to know who was the man that adviſed the late acts; for it was he that created the diſturbances, it was he that placed General Gage and his troops in the ridiculous ſituation in which they were, and it was he that ought to anſwer to his country for the miſchief and expenſes that might enſue in conſequence thereof.

Lord J. Cavendiſh was for the petition being heard with the papers, and condemned Lord North for bringing in eſtimates at the beginning of the ſeſſion, before he knew that expenſe which would be neceſſary; that it was a deceit in the country Gentlemen, who retired into the country ſatisfied with the eſtimates at firſt, and who never imagined there would be any farther ſum required; that his Lordſhip was preſſed, and ought to have laid before the Houſe the papers before the holidays, as he was deſired.

Lord North, in reply, ſaid; His reaſon for not laying the papers before them was on account of what he called an illegal and reprehenſible meeting not being finiſhed; and that he was informed a petition would be ſent them from the Throne, which would reconcile all matters in an amicable manner.

Sir George M'Cartney was ſevere againſt the petition, though, as Sir George ſaid, he wiſhed to be thought a friend to ſo reſpectable a body as the petitioners. Petitions, he ſaid, were generally framed and brought about by ſome intereſted perſons, who had artifice enough to ſeduce others to ſign them.

Mr. Innes, a merchant of the city, made a ſhort ſpeech, declaring that many of the merchants who had ſigned the petition expected nothing by it; that he could even mention their names; that all he knew about North America was, that no money was to be got, the Americans being reſolved not to pay their debts; but, thank God, he had very little concerns with them.

A diviſion followed, when Sir William Meredith's amendment was carried; for it 197, againſt it 18. Mr. Burke now, in a very ſevere ſpeech, which he pointed chiefly at Lord North, condemned their behaviour in this buſineſs, declaring that they had, for decency's ſake, admitted the petition, yet by the vote had determined that it ſhould never be heard. He ſaid he had a petition in his hand from the principal merchants in Briſtol trading to America, yet, as he found there were two committees now, the one for hearing evidence, the other for burying petitions, he plainly ſaw his petition would ſhare the fate of the other, and be buried in oblivion, though not in ſure and certain hope of a joyful reſurrection; that his worthy colleague, Mr. Cruger, had likewiſe a petition of the merchants of Briſtol to preſent, but it would go to the ſilent committee, and the three, he imagined, would be left to ſleep together. He concluded with aſking leave to preſent his petition, which being granted, he made the ſame motion, as Alderman Hayley, for its being referred to Thurſday's committee, when Lord North aroſe and objected to it, as it did not deſire to be heard; he obſerved, it could not be of any information.

Mr. Burke again replied to his Lordſhip, ſaying, the noble Lord had objected to one becauſe it deſired to be heard, the other becauſe it did not deſire to be heard.

Lord North aroſe, and endeavoured to exculpate himſelf from the charge of being acceſſory to the preſent diſputes. He obſerved, concerning the tea duty, that he had taken off the exportation duty of 9d. per pound, by which he aſſiſted the India company, and ſuffered the Americans to drink tea cheaper by 9d. per pound than uſual; yet, to ſhow their reſtleſs and rebellious ſpirit, they had ſuffered it to be landed when they paid 1s. per pound, and deſtroyed it when they paid only 3d. per pound.

Mr. Charles Fox likewiſe was again very ſevere on his Lordſhip, which cloſed the debate; and on the ſame queſtion being put, whether the petition ſhould be referred to Thurſday's committee, it likewiſe paſſed in the negative, 192 to 61.

January 24.

A petition was preſented by the merchants of Glaſgow, which occaſioned a ſhort converſation; and the queſtion being put, the Houſe divided, Ayes, for ſending it to the committee appointed to take into conſideration the petitition from London and Briſtol on Friday next, 68; Noes, 26.

Mr. Cruger deſired to preſent a petition from the merchants of Briſtol, ſimilar to that preſented on Monday by Mr. Burke, which was granted; but on the queſtion, whether it ſhould be referred to the committee appointed to ſit on Thurſday on the American papers, it was carried in the negative, by a great majority.

January 25.

—The Speaker took the chair, about half paſt two o'clock.

After a little private buſineſs, the Serjeant, attended by a meſſenger carrying the mace, viſited the different coffee-houſes, &c. in ſearch of members, that the balloting for a committee to try the Weſtminſter election might come on. About a quarter paſt three he returned, the doors were immediately locked, and the balloting began.

As ſoon as the 51 names were known, and the counſel withdrawn to ſtrike off 36, Mr. Edward Bacon aroſe, and begged leave to preſent a petition from the merchants of Norwich; which being agreed to, the ſame was read, ſetting forth "the dangerous ſituation to which the trade was reduced by the non-importation agreement, and praying that the Houſe would, in their wiſdom, do ſuch things for the reſtoring harmony as appeared moſt proper."

A little converſation enſued between Mr. Burke and Mr. Bacon, as to the condition of the perſons who ſigned the petition. Mr. Burke deſired to know if they were traders to North America; Mr. Bacon replied, not that he knew of.

On the motion for its being referred to this day's committee, it paſſed in the negative, 85 to 11.

Another petition was preſented from Dudley to the ſame purport. The Houſe were going to divide; but Mr. Burke ſaid, he would not trouble the noble Lord (North) and his train, to walk out every five minutes, in funeral pomp, to enter petitions.

On the ſame queſtion of referring it being put, it was likewiſe carried in the negative, without a diviſion.

Mr. Skipwith next deſired to preſent a petition from the inhabitants, manufacturers, &c. of Birmingham; which being received and read, ſet forth, "that they (the petitioners) deſired the laws againſt America might be *put in force*, ſo as to bring the Americans to a *ſpeedy ſenſe* of their *duty*, and that Great Britain would exert her authority."

Lord North was for referring this petition to the ſame committee as the North American merchants petition is referred; but Mr. Burke objected, ſaying, this was not a petition concerning commerce, it was a warlike blood-thirſty petition, and deſired to hear the names of the perſons who had ſigned it read, which was complied with. This petition, however, was referred to the ſame committee as the other petitions.

Sir George Saville aroſe, and acquainted the Houſe, that his not underſtanding any buſineſs except the balloting was meant to come on that day, he left the Houſe immediately, as it was over; but on going home, a petition of Dr. Franklin, Mr. Lee, and Mr. Bollan, the three Gentlemen who had the direction of the petition from the North American Congreſs to the King, was put into his hand. He ſtated the contents, which were, "that the petitioners could explain and throw great light on the petition preſented from the Congreſs to the King, which, by his Majeſty's command, had been referred to that Hon. Houſe, and therefore praying to be heard on the ſame."

A converſation now enſued concerning a point of order, whether a petition could be received concerning a petition which lay before the Houſe, but of which they could have no poſſible knowledge. This converſation laſted ſome time, in which Lord North, Mr. Rigby, the Solicitor General, Lord Frederick Campbell, and Mr. Gaſcoigne, were againſt the receiving it, complaining of the thinneſs of the Houſe, and the lateneſs of the hour; but it was very ably contended, that it could be received by Sir George Saville, Mr. Burke, and Mr. T. Townſend, who all ſhewed the difference there was between receiving a petition and complying with its prayer.

A motion was drawn up by Mr. Burke, in order for the point to be diſcuſſed; but as the Houſe was ſo thin, there being but forty members, with the Speaker, it was withdrawn, and the point was to be diſcuſſed next day, before the Houſe went into a committee on the American papers.

The Houſe broke up at half paſt ſix o'clock, and adjourned until this day.

The DEBATE *in the* HOUSE *of* LORDS *upon the motion for withdrawing the troops from* BOSTON.

LORD Chatham firſt, by complaining of the great delay there was on the ſide of Adminiſtration reſpecting American buſineſs; that the papers had been detained above ſix weeks, and now were brought with an empty parade, the contents of which he dared to ſay every noble Lord in the Houſe, as well as many other perſons out of it, had been previouſly acquainted with. His Lordſhip next adverted to the preſent miſerable ſtate of America, which he deſcribed in ſtrong, deſcriptive, forcible, pathetick terms; and obſerved, that there was not, perhaps, in the annals of any free country, an inſtance where the legiſlature could expect to extort obedience and duty by ſuch coercive meaſures; that ſending armed troops was not the way to make good ſubjects, nor even the way to produce that ſeverity and thraldom Adminiſtration ſo much ſought after; for that three millions of people, the deſcendents of our forefathers, who were forced out of this their native land by the narrow views of bigotted councils, were not likely ſo ſoon to give up their moſt valuable rights, and undoubted privileges; nay, what do I talk of three millions of people (ſays his Lordſhip) many more: Ireland is with them to a man; and as for every Whig in this country, the rights of America are ſo connected with his own that his hand and heart muſt co-operate with their meaſures. His Lordſhip then took a large and extenſive view of the rights of taxation and legiſlation, in which it would be doing great injuſtice to his oratory, judgment, and obſervation, to attempt following him. He concluded, by aſſerting that what he ſaid he had before often aſſerted, "that the property of a Britiſh ſubject was of that ſacred and unalienable nature that nothing under Heaven could touch it, without the conſent of the proprietor." In this critical ſituation of affairs, then (ſays his Lordſhip) it is my duty, aged and infirm as I am, to crawl to this Houſe, and give my opinion and beſt advice; and having thus far got on the threſhold of American buſineſs, I will knock at the doors of Adminiſtration for the admiſſion of juſtice and ſound policy, till I have obtained them. I have therefore, my Lords, brought a paper in my hand, beſeeching his Majeſty that he would be graciouſly pleaſed to withdraw the troops from Boſton, as the firſt ſtep of a reconciliation between theſe unhappy ill-treated people and the mother country; for, even upon the extravagant idea of the people of America deſerving the chaſtiſement they have received at the hands of Parliament, is it not better, is it not ſounder policy, and does it not become a free nation more, to have this effected by the influence of a civil power (that conſtant palladium of Engliſhmens rights) than dragooning them by main force, which, admitting it for a time effectual, muſt afterwards produce rancour, animoſity, and revenge.

His Lordſhip then handed up his motion, which was read.

In anſwer to Lord Chatham, Lord Suffolk greatly condemned the conduct of the Americans; ſaid that government had tried every gentle method in their power, but to no effect; that things were at laſt come to that criſis, that either the mother country muſt aſſert her authority, or reſign it; that himſelf, as one of his Majeſty's Miniſters, adviſed coercive meaſures, and he would abide by ſuch advice at all hazards.

Lord Lyttleton ſupported Lord Suffolk, and reſted the principle of his argument on the infallibility of acts of Parliament, which any power that reſiſted againſt, he ſaid, ſhould be compelled to ſubmit to.

Lord Shelburne ſpoke in defence of the Americans, ſaid he ſtood totally unconnected with men and meaſures, but that the noble Earl's motion carried with it ſuch a conciliating mode that he heartily adopted it.

Lord Camden went into an examination of the original rights of a free people, which he defined with accuracy, temper, and preciſion. He obſerved, in an inference from theſe premiſes, that *arbitrary power* may as well be judged in a *collective body* as a *ſingle perſon*, but wherever it was exerted, it was *unlawful*, and may be *reſiſted*; that this was no novel doctrine, but as old as the conſtitution, and may be found in all the law books, from Selden down to a Gentleman (meaning Judge Blackſtone) whoſe commentaries had been ſo juſtly and univerſally received in the world; that therefore acts of the ſtate were not infallible doctrines, but were, and ought to be, in particular caſes, ſubject to the right of freedom and the publick at large, who had the original right veſted in them of delegating their power and authority.

Lord Townſend quoted ſeveral acts of Parliament, to ſhow how the Americans had trampled upon legiſlative authority. He ſaid, he therefore ſhould be for reducing them to obedience by thoſe methods adopted by government, and which appeared to be the beſt. He next went into a ſhort detail of the Iriſh commerce, and obſerved, that if the act of navigation was to be ſuſpended, as the Americans wanted, he thought it would be in favour of the Iriſh merchants, particularly thoſe of Cork, whoſe local ſituation, and reſpectful behaviour, entitled them to a preference.

The Duke of Richmond took a large view of the queſtion; and, on the whole, concluded with coinciding with the opinion of Lord Chatham for withdrawing the troops before Boſton, as the only way to open a plan of reconciliation. He next anſwered the aſſertions thrown out by ſome of the Lords in office, that the Americans would not be content with being excluded internal taxation, but wanted a repeal of the navigation act, by going to the table, and referring to the petition of the Congreſs, which he read in his place, and by which it appeared that they aſked no ſuch matter. He concluded, by drawing a compariſon between the timid behaviour of Adminiſtration at the ſurrender of Falkland's Iſlands, and their *ſwaggering* conduct now uſed to their own children.

The Marquis of Rockingham lamented the unhappy ſituation of the town of Boſton, and aſked what good ſending the ſoldiery had already produced? That they had been there for ſome time, incapable of uſing their arms, or bringing about the purpoſes of government. From this experience of your ill concerted meaſures (continues his Lordſhip) you ought to be taught wiſdom and prudent legiſlation; and the only way to recover ſtability to your councils, and open a door to reconciliation, will be by withdrawing the ſoldiery from the town of Boſton,

Lords Gower, Rochford, and Weymouth, avowed the ſettled intentions of government of compelling the Americans to the immediate obedience of the legiſlature of the mother country.

January 28. Sir George Saville preſented a petition from Meſſ. Bollan, Franklin, and Lee, agents for the colonies, ſtating, "that the petitioners could explain and throw great light on the petition preſented from the Congreſs to the King, which, by his Majeſty's command, had been referred to that Honourable Houſe, and therefore praying to be heard on the ſame." This was the ſubject of much altercation the preceeding evening, and now produced another warm debate, which continued till eleven o'clock, when the Houſe divided: For receiving it 68, Noes 218.

It is this morning confidently aſſerted, at the coffee-houſes about Change, that government have declared their intentions to lay an embargo on all ſhips trading to America, except ſuch as would have conveniency for carrying of ſoldiers.

On Monday laſt 2000 lbs. weight of gunpowder was ſhipped, for the uſe of the troops in America.

Two general military officers, we are informed, are ordered to attend at the next Cabinet Council, who, it is ſaid, are to embark on board the ſhips of war now fitting out for America; and it is added, that immediately on their arrival General Gage will return to England.

Several grants are now in great forwardneſs of lands on the Ohio, in America, to the amount of four millions of acres.